

The OSCILLATOR

Volume 29 Issue 3
March 2006

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club is a special service club related to ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio. We seek to advance the Amateur Radio Service through:

- ⇒ Education and Training of new and licensed amateurs
- ⇒ Public Service and Emergency communication
- ⇒ Hobby nets, contests and meetings
- ⇒ Social events

Membership is available to anyone interested in amateur radio. A license is not required.

KK7TN PARAGRAPHS Don Stettler KK7TN

Over the years I have come to the conclusion that hams cannot be "Lone Rangers." Most all modes of ham radio are two way communications so normally you can't have a QSO with yourself. Beyond that we must band together to protect the privileges that we enjoy. An important way we can do this is by joining The American Radio Relay League (ARRL). The ARRL is the primary national watchdog for our privileges.

Another important area that needs our support is our local repeater groups. If you use repeaters it is important to support them financially. Most all work done on the repeaters is by volunteers but funds are needed to purchase the expensive equipment needed to keep them operating properly. Paying your dues to OTVARC helps support two club repeaters. There are, however, several other groups that provide repeaters for wide area coverage for the ham radio community. These include the Amateur Radio Relay Group and the Western Oregon Radio Club.

The annual dues for belonging to ARRL and the two repeater groups mentioned above with autopatch privileges is less than \$100 per year. That seems a real bargain to me.

See Paragraphs, Page 2

SCHOOL CLUB ON AIR SOON

Thanks to the generous donations of OTVARC members and a grant from our PTC, West Tualatin View Elementary in Beaverton now has all the equipment to set up a radio station. I will be meeting with district personnel over the next few weeks to talk about mounting the antenna, then we should be on the air!!

The students, staff, and parents are excited about the new project. Thanks again for all your help in making this happen. We hope to meet you on the air soon.

Jill Mohr KC7ZZY

OTVARC ADDRESS:
880 NE 25th Ave Ste 2-160
Hillsboro OR 97124-6258

The American Radio Relay League
225 Main St
Newington, CT 06111 USA
or phone (860) 594-0200
or fax (860) 594-0303
<http://www.arrl.org>

Yearly dues: Regular \$39 - 65+ \$36
[Join through the club and we receive a commission, check with Alvin Carlson]

Amateur Radio Relay Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 10031
Portland, OR 97296-0031
<http://www.arrg.org/>
Dues: Assoc. -- \$12.00
Full, with autopatch -- \$20.00
Family \$ 10.00 per, same household

CLUB MEETING

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at the Beaverton Elks' Lodge, 3500 SW 104th Ave, Beaverton. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM. Guests are welcome. Come at 6:00 PM to enjoy a no-host dinner from the Elks' Buffet.

Wayne Schuler AI9Q will present "CCARC: 75 Years later." Nearly as old as amateur radio itself, the Clark County club is one of few who have reached this milestone.

See you on March 8th. Bring or invite a guest.

Happy March Birthday

2 K7JDF	J.D. Fort
6 KA7KBH	Gene Buell
7 W6ABM	Everett Curry
10 KZ7T	Randy Stimson
K7GY	Geno Gray
12 W7FBP	Dale LeBarron
K7VDQ	Ray Deeth
14 W7AAJ	Jack Brucher
16 KD7YDW	Robert D Jones
KE7EIN	Frank Ravenswood
19 W17O	Will Hobbs
21 KC7ZZX	Joe Mohr
22 W7SIC	Al Berg
24 KB7YVN	Ray Casey Jr
KF7QS	Ira Rubin
28 W7ACD	Arch Doty
KD7VIF	Darlene Johnson

Updates and corrections to
w6abm@arrl.net

JANUARY NAQP CONTEST

The holiday season had come and gone, DX was as scarce as sunspots and the log book at amateur radio station KD7VIK was gathering dust. The first North American QSO Party, (NAQP) of 2006 soon came to the rescue.

Sponsored by the "National Contest Journal" the phone portion of the contest was held January 21st, starting at 10:00 AM PST. This was my third chance to participate and turned out to be the most interesting.

During last years contest, (January 2005) stations were spread over several bands, including 15, 20 and 40-meters. By far the busiest and most productive band was 15 meters early in the day. Later everyone moved to 20 meters, then 40 meters at the end of the day. We worked as many stations as we could, including two and three band multipliers with many of the "Big-Gun" contest stations.

By contrast, a year closer to solar minimum, almost all activity this January was found on the 20 meter band. This resulted in very crowded conditions, with stations less than 2 kilo-cycles apart sometimes and the resulting QRM a big problem. Making successful contacts was a big challenge with many of the stations calling working large pile-ups.

For this contest, a goal of working as many individual states as possible had been decided on before hand. A "search and pounce" approach was used with a quick look-up check using QRZ.com when a new station was heard. The first two states in the log were KK1L, Vermont and AL9A, Alaska. This method and a check-off form with all the states pre-listed reduced repeats, allowing more time to look for states still to be worked.

As dinner time came around 20 meters went dead. A few final contacts with western states were made on 40 meters, but propagation conditions went down hill fast after sunset. The last entry in the log was K7VU in Wyoming.

Eight casual hours of operating put a total of 40 states in the station log. Now when the next NAQP contest rolls around we'll have a pretty high mark to beat!

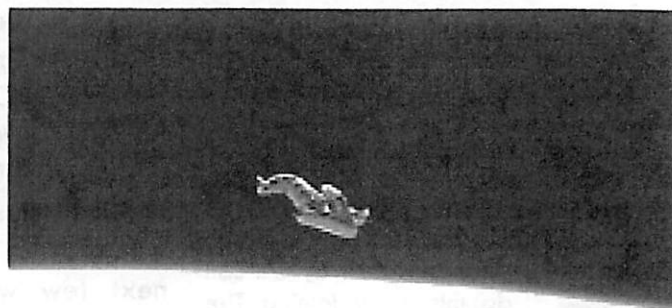
I hope to hear some other OTVARC stations on the air next time. Let's all get out there and make sure Oregon is well represented!

Ron O'Connor - KD7VIK

SUIT-SAT SUCCESS

The deploying of a surplus Russian space suit equipped with amateur radio captured the attention of the world. SuitSat disappointed those who were hoping to hear it on their simple scanners, but was successful as an experiment in space propagation and "KISS" satellite technology.

As SuitSat floated away, we got this picture



What will amateur radio operators do next to make the "old time hobby" come alive for the rest of the world?

Paragraphs, from Page 1

Last month I encouraged you to belong to your county ARES group. This month I suggest that you support ARRL and repeater groups.

Appended is contact and dues information for the ARRL and the repeater groups I have mentioned.

Best wishes for your March,

Don KK7TN

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

A SALUTE TO HAM RADIO OPERATORS

HON. MIKE ROSS OF ARKANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Wednesday, February 8

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of American citizens who are members of the Amateur Radio Relay League, known as HAM radio operators. Citizens throughout America dedicated to this hobby — a hobby that some people consider old fashioned or obsolete — were true heroes in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina as they were often the only line of communication available into the storm ravaged areas.

Amateur radio operators are often overlooked in favor of flashier means of communication. As communities across the gulf coast and America learned this year, technology can be highly vulnerable. HAM radios, entirely self contained transmitters, require no cell towers or satellites, simply a battery and a strip of wire as an antenna.

Just as after major earthquakes, tornadoes, and the terrorist attacks of 9/11, HAM operators around the country received an alert to stand by their radios to listen for calls for assistance. Following Hurricane Katrina, when cell phones and e-mail were useless, a HAM operator located in Connecticut alerted authorities about a woman trapped for 4 days without food or water and a Coast Guard Auxiliary in Cleveland arranged for a medevac for a woman in labor in New Orleans. These are just a few examples of the many lives that were saved with the critical intervention of HAM operators throughout the country.

Now more than ever, I am proud to be a licensed amateur radio operator. It is important to realize that every HAM radio operator in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service is a volunteer. This year, when disaster struck, hundreds of HAMs moved to the gulf coast to help in every way they could. Every one of which did so on a volunteer basis and their only goal was to assist in what became one of the worst natural disasters in America.

The dedication displayed by HAM radio operators in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina sets a tremendous example for us all. The people whose lives were rescued as a result of the tireless dedication of HAM radio operators will forever be grateful to these selfless public servants.

[Mike Ross is WD5DVR, and sponsor of HR 230 on BPL, ed.]

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QSO PARTIES AND 7QP

Want to try something fun? QSO Parties offer a chance to work stations concentrated in a specific U.S. State. Need a particular state for WAS, here's your chance to really fill that want list.

Idaho QSO Party

1300Z, March 11 to 0100Z, March 12
1300Z, March 12 to 0100Z, March 13

Virginia QSO Party

1800Z, March 18 to 0200Z, March 20

Montana QSO Party

2300Z, Apr 8 to 2300Z, Apr 9

7th Call Area QSO Party (7QP)

Scheduled for the first weekend of May, 2006. The objective is to activate all 259 Counties in the eight states of the 7th call area. That goal requires a combination of fixed stations, mobiles, expeditions and county-line portables. This is a new event. It promises a lot of excitement. State Coordinator for Oregon are:

Captain Dick, K4XU k4xu@arrl.net
Lieutenant Bob, WS7N ws7n@codxc.org

Drop a note to Dick or Bob letting them know of your interest or asking for more information.

HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS

11 March 2006

Electronics Show & Fleamarket

Puyallup, Washington

Pavilion Exhibition Hall

Western Washington Fairgrounds

Mike and Key ARC

<http://www.eskimo.com/~mwdink/fleainfo.html>

Michael Dinkelman N7WA

22222 148th Avenue SE

Kent, WA 98042

Phone: 253-631-3756

Email: mwdink@eskimo.com

8 April 2006

Yakima Hamfest

Selah, Washington

Selah Civic Center

216 South 1st Street

Yakima ARC

<http://w7aq.ykm.com>

Lindsay Kooser N7RHW

141 Stark Road #7

Yakima, WA 98908

Phone: 509-965-6612

Email: n7rhw@arri.net

16 - 18 June 2006

SEA-PAC '06

ARRL Northwestern Division Convention

Seaside, Oregon

Oregon Tualatin Valley ARC

<http://www.seapac.org>

Online Registration Open Now

Box 25466

Portland OR 97298-0466

Will Sheffield N7THL

Email: n7thl@arri.net

VE EXAM SESSION

OTVARC had another very busy VE test session. Switching from a bimonthly to a monthly schedule was apparently the right move at the right time.

The February 4th session served 13 applicants, all of them earning the license or credit they attempted. We issued six new Technician Class licenses, three General Class upgrades, one new General Class license "from scratch," and two Extra Class upgrades plus a CSCE for the general written exam.

Thanks to VEs Claire N7CM, Ernie K7EAJ, and John KA7BRZ. Our next session will be Saturday, March 4, 1:00 pm at Ronler Acres Fire Station.

Carl Clawson WS7L, and Kevin Bersch KE7VIN, are OTVARC VE team leaders. The Club offers all exams on the first Saturday at 1:00 PM at Ronler Acres Fire Station, 4455 NW 229th Ave, Hillsboro, across from Hillsboro Stadium.

Pre-register for exams by contacting Carl, WS7L, at ws7l@arri.net or by phone at 503.629.5796.

Sea-Pac Scholarship Deadline

Each year a portion of net receipts from Sea-Pac go toward funding a scholarship to any deserving US citizen amateur radio operator who is planning on attending college full time. The Chuck Mickley Memorial Scholarship winner is announced the Sea-Pac Banquet. The scholarship is not restricted to the Portland Metro area, but that region is given preference. The award is available to new as well as continuing or returning students. The application is on-line, <http://www.otvarc.org/scholarship/scholarship.pdf>.

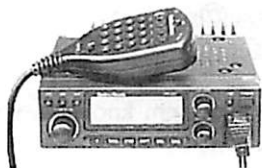
Deadline for applications is March 31. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the scholarship chairman, Carl Clawson WS7L.

For Sale

21 ft steel pole, threaded on one end. \$35

Located in Hillsboro

Call Maureen KA7LAP, 503.591.9641



Radio Shack
10/45 Watt 2-Meter Mobile FM
Transceiver — \$40.00
Proceeds to Scholarship
Everett W6ABM
503.681.2345

St. Patrick says:

"My lips feel blessed & protected from March winds, when I'm using my favorite:



OREGON TRAIL LIP BALM

Created by: Maureen O'Rourke KA7LAP
mcorourke@netzero.com

Available at: Oregon Mountain Community Store on Sandy Blvd.

LUNCH BUNCH

Saturday March 25, 2006
1:30 PM

Home Town Buffet
3790 SW Hall Blvd
Beaverton, Oregon

Questions?

Linda Sutton KC7YTD
kb7pww@arrrl.net or 503.246.8879

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Donald Stettler KK7TN
503.649.6013 kk7tn@arrrl.net

Vice President Everett Curry W6ABM
503.681.2345 w6abm@arrrl.net

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503.286.5581 stevewa@spiritone.com

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Pat Colton KC7TOA
503.641.3930 plcolton@juno.com

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Phil Kane K2ASP
503.292.2350 k2asp@arrrl.net

Will Sheffield N7THL
503.642.7314 n7thl@arrrl.net

CLIP and save for reference
This Information available at www.otvarc.org

TRAVELERS'

March 24 — 26
Campout At
Whaler's Rest

South of Newport
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South Beach OR 541.867.3100
www.1000trails.com/site/page/pg3487-as57.html

Reservations Required
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Resort Parks International
or go in as the guest
of a member

CONTACT:
Betty Mickley N7REX
n7rex@teleport.com

LICENSE TRUSTEE APPLICATIONS

The Club License Trustee is an appointed officer of OTVARC. The License Trustee maintains our license, deals with the FCC on behalf of our club, and monitors the use of the W7OTV callsign assigned to the club. The Ideal License Trustee holds an Extra Class license and is available throughout the year to the members and club board.

In 1999, Hanford Van Ness KE7BB accepted this role on our behalf. He has faithfully served for more than five years. He now wishes to be replaced.

If you are interested, please address a written statement to the Board of Directors. Include your reasons for desiring to serve the club in this way.

DC POWER

We know how to make connections

Wes Allen, K7WWG President
665 SW 167th Ave. 503-531-4081
Beaverton, Oregon 97006

SEA-PAC Pin Contest

SEA-PAC is holding its 6th annual pin design contest. The contest winner receives two tickets to the SEA-PAC Banquet, Saturday, June 17th in Seaside.

Pin designs must be submitted for consideration no later than March 17, 2006. Send pin designs to SEA-PAC Ham Convention

Post Office Box 25466
Portland, OR 97298-0466

The selection decision of the SEA-PAC Committee is final. Furthermore, the manufacturer may make alterations to the design, as needed, to meet their specifications.

- The pin must include:
- The words SEA-PAC (does not have to be in the mistral font of the original).
- The SEA-PAC logo (the round logo with wave and birds).
- The year (2006, 06 or '06 are acceptable.)
- The pin size has a 3/4 inch maximum dimension.
- Every area needs to be marked with a color on a sample printout. Remember, color must be surrounded by metal.
- Tiny or busy areas should be simplified or enlarged. Use strong lines and simple art. Letters are usually in metal, as they are too thin to hold color or are too small. The lapel pins are small, so look at the design and imagine putting metal around color. Someone has to put color in recesses, and if it is too small, they can't do it.

The submitted design must include:

- Original artwork design in color at 400% minimum.
- Original artwork design in grayscale at 400% minimum with details labeled or explained and colors indicated.
- Name, address, and phone number of person submitting the design.

A selection of previous pins may be seen on the SEA-PAC website: <http://www.seapac.org>.

Questions? Contact me, Wayne Schuler AI9Q, AI9Q@arrl.net.

AMATEUR RADIO DIRECTION FINDING

Yamhill County ARES is holding regularly-scheduled transmitter hunts. These are held on the Sunday after the fourth Thursday from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Current starting point is the Parking Structure at the Yamhill County Building, 7th and Evans Streets, in McMinnville. Talk-in is on the McMinnville ARC repeater 146.64 MHz minus.

The T-Hunts will be on 2 meters, currently 146.565 MHz, and will include a practice Emergency Locator Transmitter beacon on 121.775 MHz for those who are equipped to hunt it.

We are still beginners, so hunts have been more about training than competition. We'll focus on sequential short hunts around the McMinnville area, then expand the hunts to enjoy more of rural Yamhill County as our skills grow.

All amateur radio operators and prospects are invited to participate. We'll do our best to match up learners with more experienced teams. Riding along is one of the best ways to learn transmitter hunting. For those just getting started, spare equipment is usually available for loan, but make arrangements ahead of time if possible. Feel free to contact me with questions or comments.

- Dale WB6BYU wb6byu@arrl.net

FIELD DAY '06 PLANS

Field Day '06 will take place June 23rd - 25th. This year, we will set up "in town," as an amateur radio demonstration opportunity. President Don KK7TN has named the following people to the Field Day Planning Group: J.D. Fort K7JDF, General Coordinator; with Don Stettler KK7TN; Everett Curry W6ABM; and Steve Ward KE7EIQ. Others will be named later.

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OTVARC 5TH WEDNESDAY RADIO CONTEST - March 29, 2006

- 1) Object: To work as many amateur stations as possible, in as many different 5-digit ZIP codes as possible, using **147.54 FM simplex**.
- 2) Contest Period: 2000 local through 2100 local (8:00 – 9:00 PM PST, Wednesday, **March 29, 2006**).
- 3) Categories:
 - A) Single Operator: One person performs all operating and logging functions.
 - B) Single Operator QRP: Same as (A) with a power limitation of 5 watts.
 - C) Multi-operator: More than one person performing operating and logging functions.
- 4) Exchange: Operating 5-digit ZIP Code and Station Category (i.e. A, B, or C in #3 above).
- 5) Scoring:
 - A) QSO points: Count one (1) point for a complete single operator or multi-operator QSO. Two (2) points for each complete single operator QRP contact.
 - B) Multiplier: The total number of 5-digit ZIP codes worked.
 - C) Total score: Multiply the total number of QSO points by the multiplier.
- 6) Miscellaneous:
 - A) Partial QSOs do not count. Both calls, the full exchange, and acknowledgement must be sent and received.
 - B) While no minimum distance is specified for contacts, equipment should be capable of real communications (i.e. able to communicate over at least 1 km).
 - C) Use of repeaters and telephones to coordinate contacts is not allowed.
 - D) Rovers are not allowed as entries in the contest. Mobile stations can be contacted by stations in the contest. Mobile stations will not have a ZIP code and will not count toward the multiplier count.
 - E) Only one call sign may be used by any station.
- 7) Reporting:
 - A) Entries must be delivered to the contest organizers at or before the April 12, 2006 club meeting. To: Jim Schaeffer, KB7ADH by mail or email; or, to the Club Post Office Address.
 - B) Entries recorded on log sheets, or email, showing time of QSO, Call, Zip Code and Contest Category.
- 8) Awards:
 - A) Certificates will be awarded for the top winner in each station category.
 - B) Awards will be made at the club meeting May 10, 2006.

Contest Summary Sheet

Call Used _____ Operating ZIP Code _____

Other Operators _____

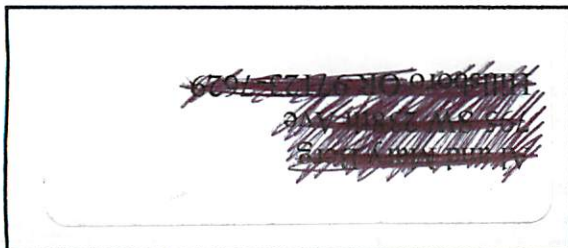
Category: A - Single Op B - Single Op QRP C - Multi-operator

Scoring:	Category A QSO's _____	x 1 = _____
	Category B QSO's _____	x 2 = _____
	Category C QSO's _____	x 1 = _____
	TOTAL QSO Points _____	
	Times Number of Zip Codes x _____	
	TOTAL CLAIMED SCORE _____	

Signed _____ Date _____

Attach Log Sheets detailing all contacts, including Time, Call, ZIP Code, and Category.

CLUB MEETING
MARCH 8TH



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Web: WWW.OTVARC.ORG
w7otv@arrl.net
Simplex: 147.54 MHz
Repeaters: 146.96 MHz
440.350 MHz (127.3)
Editor: Everett W6ABM
w6abm@arrl.net



PORTLAND OR 972
28 FEB 2006 PM 1 L

OREGON TUALATIN VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
880 NE 25th Ave. Ste 2-160
Hillsboro OR 97124-6258

SEA PAC

NORTHWESTERN DIVISION
ARRL CONVENTION
www.seapac.org

June 16, 17 & 18, 2006

SEA-PAC WEB REGISTRATION OPENS

On February 14th, SEA-PAC '06 registration opened on the event's web site for the first time (<http://seapac.org/registration/registration.htm>).

Last year, SEA-PAC offered an online registration form that could be completed, printed and mailed. You can do that again in 2006, but the big news is that you can register using a credit card or PayPal and complete the process while online. Its simple and speeds the process. The postal fliers are already "in-the-mail." All persons who have attended in recent years should receive the postal version. However, online information is available to all, go to www.seapac.org.

SEA-PAC is sponsored by Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club. Al Berg, Will Sheffield, and Wayne Schuler co-chair this project.

SEA PAC

**ARRL NW DIVISION
HAM CONVENTION**



**June 16, 17 & 18th, 2006
PLAN NOW TO ATTEND**

Seaside Convention Center, Seaside OR

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